gqftहमारे जवानों के लिए पीने के पानी की समस्या बहुत है । करीब दो सौ किलोमीटर से पानी लाते हैं । यह पानी टैंकरों से आता है । वहां एक पनी की लाइन भी बिछाई गई है लेकिन बहुत लम्बी लाइन होने की वजह से अक्सर टूट जाती है जिसके कारण नियमित रूप से पानी नहीं मिलता है । यह हमें देखना चाहिए कि जब हमारे जवानों को पानी नहीं मिलेगा तो वह अपना काम कैसे करेंगे? वहां पर 450 वर्ग किलोमीटर के क्षेत्र में पानी नहीं है जबकि नगरपारकर और बदीन में पूरी मात्रा में पानी है । वजह यह है कि पहले वहां सिंधु नदी बहती थी । हमने कभी कोशिश नहीं की है ड्रिंकिंग वाटर कमीशन की मारफत भी आज तक नहीं सोचा है लेकिन मेरी यह प्रार्थना है, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जो 108 मील क्रिक है वहां पर बारिश के दिनों में पानी भर जाता है । वहां से घुसपैठ बड़ी आसानी से हो रही है । हमारा जो इलाका है उसमें 450 वर्ग किलोमीटर के क्षेत्र में पानी नहीं है । वहां से लोग वेस्टर्न पार्ट आफ दी कच्छ से ईस्टर्न पार्ट की ओर जा रहे हैं । यह इलाका बिलकुल खाली होता जा रहा है ।

पाकिस्तान बार्डर के दूसरे छोर पर औद्योगिक पावर स्टेशन और दूसरे कुछ काम बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में हो रहे हैं, जैसे कि पेपर में भी निकला है कि पाकिस्तान सरकार वहां पर 8 अरब रूपये खर्च करने वाली है । इसका परिणाम यह होगा कि हमारा क्षेत्र बिल्कुल खाली रहेगा, उसकी देखभाल करने वाला कोई नहीं होगा । अगर हमारी आबादी को वहां नहीं बसाया जाएगा तो उस क्षेत्र में घुसपैठ बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में होने की आशंका होगी । इस बात का सीमा सुरक्षा बल के अधिकरी श्री टंडन जी ने भी समर्थन किया है । आज तक घुसपैठ होती रहती है । बहुत लोग पकड़े गये हैं । दो दिन पहले 17 लोग पकड़े गये हैं । यदि हमारा कंट्रोल इस क्षेत्र में नहीं रहेगा तो उधर से सीमा सुरक्षा बल के लोग खाली जमीन पर कब्जा न कर लें । इसलिए जो 37 किलोमीटर में तार लगानी है, बाड़ बनानी है, वह काम अभी तक पूरा नहीं हुआ है । वह काम पहले करना चाहिए । हमारे जो जवान वहां पर हैं उनके लिए पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था भी की जानी चाहिए । वैसे इलाका बड़ा अच्छा है । यदि बारिश हो जाए तो खेती भी अच्छी हो जाती है । लेकिन पीने के पानी की समस्या के कारण यह सब कुछ हो रहा है । मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय गृह मंत्री जी और वाटर रिसोर्स मंत्री जी का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूं कि वहां कोई न कोई प्रबंध किया जाए । अगर समय रहते यह काम नहीं करेंगे तो हम को बड़ा नुक्सान होगा और वहां से लोग अंदर आ जाएंगे । यह मेरी प्रार्थना है और सरकार इस पर जल्दी से जल्दी कोई कदम उठाए । धन्यवाद ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा) : अब हम...

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) **:** महोदय...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा) : मैने कुछ कहा ही नहीं है ।

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : मैं समझ गया हूं...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा) : आप बड़े अन्तर्यामी हैं ।

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : इतना समझता हूं । आप मेरे साथ सदन में हैं ।

Madam, it has been the convention in this House that when we dispense with lunch break, we do not insist on quorum. Now, we are going to discuss some important legislative business which is the last item on the agenda today and there are only fifteen minutes. So, I request you, let the quorum bell be rung.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Okay. Let the quorum bell be rung. Or, shall be adjourn the House for fifteen minutes?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: No. We shall take up the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Okay. I go by your advice.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: We can finish it within ten or fifteen minuics.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S PENSION BILL, 1996

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): Madam; I beg to move:

that the Bill to provide for the payment of pension and other

facilities to retiring Vice-Presidents, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

Madam, salaries and allowances of officers....

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Mr. Maqbool Dar...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Let him finish. You can speak afterwards.

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: Madam, under the Act of 1953, salaries and pension are being provided to the Members of Parliament and the President of India who holds the highest post of the country.

लेकिन वाइस प्रेसीडेंट की पेंशन का अभी तक नहीं आया था चूंकि the Vice-President also holds a high office in the country, next only to the President.

इसलिए यह इंसानियत के तकाज़ों के मुताबिक कानून की नज़र में कुछ नाइंसाफी ही लगती थी। इसलिए गवर्नमेंट ने मौजूं समझा है और इस विषय में बहुत बार इस आगस्ट हाउस में भी सुझाव पेश किया गया है बिला इम्तयज़ पार्टी सियासत सब नुमाइंदों ने इस पर इत्तफाक किया है, जरूरत महसूस की है। इसलिए आज मैं यह जो बिल गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से ला रहा हूं मेरे ख्याल में इसमें बहस करने की ज्यादा जरूरत भी नहीं है, गुंजाइश भी नहीं है।

Madam, many people had realised the need for this as early as in 1951.

हमारे मौजज़िज़ मैंबर श्री पी. उपेन्द्र जी ने यहां बिल पेश किया था तो उसमें भी हुकूमत की तरफ से उस वक्त भी एशोरेंस मिली थी, अकसर बार एशोरेंस मिली है कि यह बिल लाया जाएगा और इस बिल के तहत वाइस प्रेसीडेंट ऑफ इंडिया को रिटायर होने के बाद यह कंवीनिएंट पेंशन मुकर्रर किया गया है, फसिलिटीज़ मुकर्रर की गई हैं, ट्रेवेलिंग फैसिलिटीज़ मुकर्रर की गई हैं, आफिस चलाने के लिए जो जरूरत महसूस की गई है उसके लिए भी सेक्रेटेरिएट और उसके अलावा स्टेशनरी एक्सपेंसेज़ वगैरह सब कुछ मुहैया किया गया है। इसलिए मैं मोजज़ीज़ मैंबरान से इस्तदा करता हूं कि इसको एप्रूव किया जाए और इस सिलसिले में हकूमत की तरफ से जो एक अमेंडमेंट है,

Madam, I may be authorised to move an amendment also. That this House' recommends to the Lok Sabha that the following amendment be made in the Vice-President's Pension Bill, 1997, as passed by the Lok Sabha:

> 'That at page 2, line 20, *for* the word "spouse", the words "spouse and an attendant" be *substituted.*

I request that the Bill may be passed, with this amendment.

The question was proposed.

SHRI M.A. BABY (Kerala): Madam, at this stage, I want to submit one thing. The drafting has not been done properly, keeping the gender justice in mind. It is stated here: 'his spouse'. What does it mean? Does it mean that we will have only a male Vice-President? Does it mean that? Therefore, the wording should be 'his or her spouse'. I think this kind of a mistake being committed by the drafting department is not giving a good signal.

Apart from this, I would also like to support the amendment moved by my hon. friend, Shri Satish Agarwal, *vis-a-vis* accommodation. Shri Agarwal has given an amendment that the Vice-President, after he ceases to hold office, should be entitled to an accommodation which a Cabinet Minister is entitled to, and not a Deputy Minister, as is provided here. Similarly, on the question of office expenses, what has been provided for in this Bill means nothing. Going by the expenditure and the cost of living these days, it is ridiculous.

These are the two points I wanted to raise. Thank you very much.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, I will take only three minutes.

I welcome the Vice-President's Pension Bill, 1997, which has been moved by the hon. Minister.

Having said this, Madam, I am totally opposed to the contents of this Bill. It is an insult to this House, to the Rajya Sabha, and its Chairman, i.e. the Vice-President, who is a high dignitary.

I have given notice of three amendments. You have made a provision here in regard to accommodation. You have said here that he would be entitled to a house which a Union Deputy Minister is entitled to. You are equating the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, who is the Vice-President of India, with a Deputy Minister; not even a Minister of State. I have given notice of an amendment that he should be entitled to a house which a Union Cabinet Minister is entitled to. We have seen what type of Cabinet Ministers we have. If they can be entitled to a certain type of accommodation, why not the Vice-President of India, who is also the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha?

Number 2: You have provided, "to secretarial staff; and office expenses not exceeding rupees six thousand per annum;", that is, Rs. 500 per month. Mr. Maqbool Dar, I will give Rs. 5,000 to the Government and you make this office arrangement at my house—I will give you my whole salary, constituency allowance, office allowance, postage allowance, everything. Can you make it within Rs. 5,000? You can't get sweeper for Rs. 500, and you are providing Rs. 500 a month for the retired Vice-President of India. Is it not an insult to this high office?

Thirdly, you have provided, in the case of death while holding office, only for medical treatment facility to the spouse, and nothing for the rest of life. Some pension of Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000, or whatever it is, can be given. So I have idded pension also for the spouse in case he Vice-President dies in office.

These are the three amendments to which you cannot procure the President's assent by 5 p.m. today. And this Bill has to be returned. If it is not returned, I know the fate of it because, after 14 days it will become law. Because this is a Money Bill, if the Rajya Sabha does not pass it, it will automatically become law. With the present provisions you may prefer to have it, but the Rajya Sabha Members, in order to maintain the dignity of this august House and its Chairman, oppose it in principle. We will not consider your motion for consideration. I appeal to the whole House that only to maintain the dignity of our Chairman-giving Rs. 500 a month for office expenses, secretarial expenses and housing only as entitled to by a Deputy Minister, I think, is an insult to this House—we should defeat this motion. It will become a law, no doubt,, without our passing it, but we do not want to be a party to this insult and lowering of the dignity of this House.

श्री नगेन्द्र नाथ ओझा (बिहार) : मैडम, मैं भी अपने को संबद्ध करता हूं।

SHRI M.A. BABY: Madam, I would request you to take the sense of the House. I don't think any Member in this House will agree to this Bill in its present form. I fully associate myself with what Mr. Satish Agarwal has said, and if the Government is thinking that it can go ahead with this kind of a thing, just ignoring the feelings of the Upper House, then I am sorry for this *Government....(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: You ask any Member of this House irrespective of the party—Mr. Narayanasamy of the Congress Party is there, the AI-ADMK is there, the Janata Dal is there, the CPI and the CPM are there. It is a question of dignity of the whole House. *(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): All of you, please don't stand and talk together.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Madam ..... *(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN

(SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): You didn't seek any permission. Don't speak like that. Yes, Mr. Malkani. I will give you just one minute.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU: I may be permitted, Madam.

SHRI K.R. MALKANI (Delhi): Madam, I entirely agree with the submissions made by my hon. friend, Mr. Satish Agarwal. I am very sorry to say that the Government has not applied its mind while framing this Bill. It is very thoughtlessly and very casually done. To equate a retired Vice-President with a Deputy Minister is an insult. I feel that had there been a provision for Parliamentary Secretaries in the Government of India, they would have said that a retired Vice-President be equated with a Parliamentary Secretary. As Mr. Agarwal has rightly pointed out, how is it that you provide for only Rs. 500 a month to run an office? The least has to be Rs. 5,000 a month or more. I would like to say that how this odd figure of Rs 6,250 as pension was arrived at is a mystery to me; I don't know what astrological significance it has. It could easily have been Rs. 10,000.

Why can't we be graceful in this matter? Why do we have to show this lack of taste in this matter? And, as and when a Vice-President dies, the spouse should be given a pension. You have provided for only travel and medical expenses. Why not pension also?

I would suggest to the hon. Minister who is present here to convey these feelings to the Prime Minister and his Cabinet and, if possible, to stop this Bill from getting enacted because, as you know, the Lok Sabha will not be there to reconsider it. They can hold it over. That would be advisable, Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN

(SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Mr. Minister.

श्री मोहम्मद मकबूल डार : मैडम, मैं आनरेबल मैंबरान के जजबात की कद्र करता हूं और खासतौर से अपने दोस्त, मेरे साथी सतीश अग्रवाल जी का बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं, जिन्होंने बड़े जजबात के साथ वाइस प्रेसीडेंट आफ इंडिया की डिग्निटी को पेश किया। मैं भी इन्हीं के लहजे से अपने जज़बात को इस तरह इजहार करता हूं कि मेरी नजर में भी वाइस प्रेसीडेंट आफ इंडिया, जो एक्स आफिसो नेयरमेन भी हैं इस अगस्ट हाऊस के, इनकी डिग्निटी को इसी अंदाज के साथ मान्यता देता हूं। लेकिन, चूंकि आज ही अमेंडमेंट आई, it was not pratical to get the approval of the President.

थोड़ी बहुत जो मिस-अंडरस्टेंडिंग इसमें मुझे लगती है, मैं दूर करना चाहता हूं कि जो स्टेट मिनिस्टर का स्टेटस आपने कहा, **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर।

श्री मोहम्मद मकबूल डार : जी, कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर और स्टेट मिनिस्टर का एकमडेशन जो है, वह एक जैसा है, एक टाइप का है। इसलिए प्रेसीडेंट आफ इंडिया की एकमडेशन के सिलसिले में, स्टेट मिनिस्टर की स्टेटस का एकमडेशन होता है। लिहाजा मैंने पहले ही कहा – The Vice-President of India is very great in status, next only to the President.

जो डिप्टी मिनिस्टर का एकमडेशन का स्टेटस है, वह सेवेअ टाइप का हो सकता है और इसलिए वह थोड़ी तफावुत है और हक बचाने की तफावुत है। उसमें ज्यादा नहीं है। क्योंकि फिर मैं वजाहत करूंगा स्टेट मिनिस्टर और कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर की एकमडेशन एक जैसी होती है, उसमें कोई फर्क नहीं होता है और वह बिल में, जो एक्ट पास हुआ है, उस वक्त भी वहां स्टेट मिनिस्टर के स्टेटस का एकमडेशन प्रेसीडेंट आफ इंडिया को एनटाइटल किया गया है

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : यह गलत है।

श्री मोहम्मद मकबूल डार : दूसरी बात, जो स्टेशनरी वाला मामला है, वह-

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आपकी राय के मुताबिक यह बहुत कम है, मैं भी आपके साथ सहमत हूं। **...(व्यवधान)...**

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: It says, "Secretarial staff and office expenses not exceeding Rs. 6,000/-."

श्री मोहम्मद मकबूल डार : मैडम, उसकी वजुहात इस तरह है, यह एक्ट पास होने के बाद यहां रूल भी

बन जाएंगे और उसके लिए वजुहात के साथ एक स्टेनोग्राफर होगा, एक प्यून होगा, आफिस होगा। फिर भी आपके जजवात की मैं कद्र करते हुए आपसे सहमत हूं कि it will be considered later on. चूंकि प्रेसिडेंट आफ इंडिया के स्पाऊस के लिए अभी पेंशन का मुकर्रर नहीं किया है, if the President of India dies in harness, हम चाहते हैं कि वह हम वाइस प्रेसीडेंट और प्रेसीडेंट का इकट्ठा लाएंगे।

I assure that it will be done. I request the hon. House to approve this Bill. The Bill may kindly be returned.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: No, sorry.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): Let me make it clear that if a sitting Member dies, his wife, the widow is entitled to pension. Why should the wife of the President or of the Vice-President not be entitled to it? Two wrongs do not make one right. I beg of the hon. Minister not to move the Bill but to go back to the President...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): the Bill has already been moved.

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: the bill has already been moved.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: In any case, if the Bill is not passed here, it will become law after 14 days. But, Rajya Sabha Members do not want to be a party to passing such a Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): What is the sense of the House?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Everybody is against it.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): Madam, I quite agree.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Agree on what?

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: The facilities that are being given to a retired President are less. But now there is no time. The hon. Minister will communicate the feelings of the House to the Prime Minister and see what amendments can be made while framing the rules. So, as the Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha, I request the hon. House to accept this Bill.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: No. these are substantive provisions in the Bill.

SHRI M.A. BABY: Madam, we understand the amendments which we have moved cannot be incorporated at the stage of framing rules. And because the Parliament is in session, wc cannot speak in terms of ordinance or things like that. That would be wrong. Therefore, if the Government gives an assurance that on the first available opportunity, the contents of the amendments moved by Shri Satish Agarwal will be fully incorporated, then we would not have any disagreement.

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: Madam, I had tried this today also. It would not be practical. Bug, I again assure the House that the amendments will be brought to the notice...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): What do you mean by 'not practical'. Is it because of the time constraint?

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: Yes.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, he is referring to receiving the assent of the President to my amendment. No. If you arc prepared to assure the House that you are going to bring forward an amending Bill incorporating whatever amendments I have moved,...

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: Your amendments will be considered.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: No. The Speaker decided on a matter relating to the Members of Parliament in

September. It was signed by the Hon. Speaker, it was signed by the Hon. Chairman. Your are still sitting tight over it. Even those rules are not being amended and notified. We do not rely on that. In any case it will come into force after 14 days, but the Rajya Sabha cannot be a party to this Bill in this form to be returned to the Lok Sabha.

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: Madam, I will bring it to the notice of the Home Minister and after due consideration it will be incorporated.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): We are encroaching upon the Private Members' Business.

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : रख दीजिए मोशन । हम सब वोट करेंगे इसके खिलाफ । इस फार्म में इसे पास नहीं होने देंगे ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा) : अब हम इंट्रोडक्शन के लिए बिल लेते हैं **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : इसका क्या हुआ?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा) : यह तो हो गया । इन्होंने ऐश्योरेंस दिया ना ।

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : हुआ क्या इसका? इसके कंसीडरेशा का मोशन तो वोट कराना पड़ेगा ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the payment of pension and other facilities to retiring Vice-Presidents, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: The "Noes" have it the "Noes" have it. Let it come on record. It is a question of the dignity of this House. After all it will become an Act after 14 days. It will not be affected on merits. But, we Rajya Sabha Members, in order to maintain our dignity, want to register our protest on this issue.

SHRI M.A. BABY: Madam, quite an extraordinary situation is developing now. There is a very easy way to get out of the difficulty if the Government representatives here apply their mind properly and understand it. I do not think any Member in this House would come in the way of agreeing to pass the Bill, if a very categorical assurance without 'ifs' and 'buts' is given by the Government here.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: How can he give?

SHRI M.A. BABY: Why not? The entire House stands by this view. The Minister should not have any feeling of weakness. The entire House supports him, if he gives an assurance that the amendment moved by Shri Satish Agarwal would be incorporated at the first available opportunity. There should be no difficulty in giving such an assurance, when the entire House stands by this view. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAMMAD MAQBOOL DAR: Madam, it will not be possible to give such an assurance. I will bring it to the notice of the hon. Home Minister.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Here in this House on the question of coupons the whole House was unanimous. There was a direction from the Chair. Even then the Government did not move. So, he will not be in a position to give an assurance that he will incorporate my amendments, don't feel embarrassed. Madam, he is my very good friend. We were together for 15 days on a foreign tour. So, don't embarrass him. In any case, it will be deemed to be passed after 14 days. But, the Rajya Sabha cannot be a party to the whole unjust and discriminatory piece of legislation regarding our share, that is all.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: This Rs. 500 is ridiculous and insulting. In Rs. 500 you cannot get even a sweeper. I will give you Rs. 5,000, you manage my office. In Rs. 5,000 you cannot manage even my office. You are talking of

Rs. 500. We will vote against it. Ultimately, it will be decided.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Now, it is Private members' Legislative Business time. So, we will keep the Bill pending till 5 o' clock. We will take it up after 5 o'clock.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: What is this? This is not fair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Let the Prime Minister answer *it...(Interruptions)...Let* the Prime Minister answer it. In the meanwhile, the Minister will inform the Prime Minister. When the Prime Minister comes to this House at 5 o'clock, he can answer the points on this Bill and he can make his own statement.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Then, Prime Minister's statement at 5.00 P.M. will be delayed further because that is the last item listed in the agenda.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): We have already encroached on Private Members' Legislative Business time by ten minutes.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS BILLS INTRODUCED

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): Shri Rajnath Singh.

Absent. Miss Saroj Khaparde. Absent.

THE COMPULSORY MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AND ROADS BILL, 1997.

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI (Madhya Pradesh): Madam Vice-Chairperson, I beg to move for leave to introduce a bill to provide for the compulsory periodic repairs of highways, including national highways and roads and proper maintenance and upkeep of such highways and roads, by the Central and State Governments and provisions for public utility services, ambulance and crane services at strategic points of highways and roads and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

THE PROHIBITION OF USING IMAGES OF GODS AND GODDESSES AS TRADE MARKS BILL, 1997.

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI (Madhya Pradesh): Madam Vice-Chairperson, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the prohibition of using images of Gods and Goddesses or founders of religions who are worshipped by their followers as trade marks particularly in harmful substances such as tobacco, tobacco products and intoxicating substances and for matters connected therewith.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

THE COMPULSORY LINKING OF VILLAGES WITH POSTAL AND TELEGRAPHIC SERVICES BILL, 1997.

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: (Madhya Pradesh): Madam Vice-Chairperson, I move for leave to introduce a bill to provide for the compulsory linking of all the villages in the country with postal and telephone services within a time frame and for matters connected therewith.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN